State of Palestine

Ministry of Health

Minister's Office

دولـــة فـلـسـطين

وزارة الصحة

مكتب الوزير

Monday: 20/11/2023

Day 45 of Israeli Occupation aggression on Palestine

Daily report on the effects of the Israeli Occupation aggression in Palestine

Current situation in Palestine from 7th of October to 20th of November 2023 – 10:00 am

The information in this report as of Sunday, 19/11/2023.

There are significant difficulties in obtaining updated information due to the sever disruption of all communication services in the Gaza Strip by the Israeli Occupation attacks.

Emergency operations center in the ministry of health Ramallah oversees the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Figures updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect the verified statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all causalities given the fact that many victims remain missing under the rubble.

Attacks on Hospitals and health system

9 hospitals out of 35 are partially functioning.
26 hospitals are not functioning.

- On November 19, Israeli occupation airstrikes continued Al-Shifa hospital, leading to the arrest of at least one patient during the search and interrogation conducted by Israeli forces.
- Israeil occupation forces continued to besiege and bomb the Indonesian Hospital and bombed Al Awda Hospital in the northern Gaza Strip, which led to the death and injury of a number of citizens.

- 31 out of the 36 premature newborns at Shifa hospital were transferred in temperature-controlled incubators to Al Helal Al Emarati Hospital in Rafah. In their former setting, the infants' health rapidly declined, resulting in the unfortunate death of the remaining five babies due to the collapse of medical services. UNICEF and collaborating partners are actively assisting in the identification and registration of these infants, aiming to facilitate their reunion with parents and family members whenever possible.
- As of November 17, the World Health Organization (WHO) has recorded over 44,000 cases of diarrhea and 70,000 instances of acute respiratory infections in Gaza shelters. However, it is important to note that the actual numbers may be considerably higher. Additionally, the WHO expressed concern that the imminent winter season with its accompanying rains and floods is likely to exacerbate an already critical situation.
- On 18 November, the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PCRS) stated that its emergency medical teams remain trapped at Al Ahli Baptist Hospital (the only functional hospital in north Gaza) for the third consecutive day, amid heavy bombardment and gunfire. The teams have been unable to move outside and reach those who are injured safely.
- Since 11 November, following the collapse of services and communications at hospitals in the north, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza has not updated cumulative casualty figures. Their reported fatality toll as of 19 November evening (latest update provided) stood at 12,700 of whom almost 5,350 were children, 3,250 women and 695 were elderly. About 4,500 others, including some 3,500 children and women, have been reported missing and may be trapped or dead under the rubble, awaiting rescue or recovery. Another 30,000 Palestinians have reportedly been injured.

- 205 martyrs of health personnel.
- 36 martyrs of the Civil Defense.
- More than 220 health personnel were wounded.

Important Highlights:

- In the past 48 hours, three schools serving as IDP shelters to the north of Wadi Gaza (hereafter: the north) have been reportedly hit, resulting in many fatalities. In the Tal Az Za'atar school, in Beit Lahia. The same day more dozens of people were martyred and injured of which most were children in UNRWA's Al Fakhouri school in Jabalia, which shelters over 4,000 IDPs. On 17 November, another UNRWA school in Al-Zeitoun neighborhood of Gaza city was also hit. Between 7 October and 16 November, at least 71 IDPs were killed and 573 injured, while sheltering in UNRWA facilities across the Gaza Strip.
- On 18 November, 123,000 liters of fuel entered Gaza from Egypt. The Israeli occupation authorities confirmed that they would start allowing the entry of a daily amount of nearly 70,000 liters of fuel from Egypt, which is well below the minimum requirements for essential humanitarian operations. Fuel is set to be distributed by UNRWA to support food distribution, and the operation of generators at hospitals, water and sanitation facilities, shelters, and other critical services.
- Overnight (17-18 November), telecommunications services within Gaza were gradually restored after providers received a limited amount of fuel. The shutdown of services lasted for some 30 hours and brought the already challenging delivery of humanitarian assistance to nearly a halt, including life-saving assistance to people injured or trapped under the rubble because of airstrikes. Forcibly displaced people fleeing from the north are reporting the presence of dead bodies in the streets. As of 15 November, more than 4000 civilians are still missing of them about 2000 children, remain missing and presumed to be trapped or dead under the rubble.

- The continues Israeli occupation attacks in the heart of Gaza city have continued to disrupt the movement of rescue teams and ambulances and people to obtain their essential needs, particularly food and water. Households in the western neighborhoods of Gaza city appealed for help after their remaining food and drinking water had been depleted. Reportedly, they were unable to leave their homes because of the presence of Israeli occupation ground troops and bombardment. Multiple appeals by stranded households and family members underneath struck buildings and homes went unanswered; the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has been unable to respond to hundreds of calls to assist and evacuate.
- The consumption of water from unsafe sources presents significant concerns regarding dehydration and waterborne illnesses. The World Food Programme (WFP) has observed a surge in incidents of dehydration and malnutrition, sounding the alarm about the looming danger of starvation resulting from the direct Israeli occupation forces systematic attacks on the food supply chain and obstructing delivery of aid. A mere 10 percent of the essential food provisions have reached Gaza since the Since the beginning of the Israeli aggression.
- In the northern region, significant worries persist regarding dehydration and the risk of waterborne diseases stemming from the use of unsafe water sources. The lack of bottled water distribution among internally displaced persons (IDPs) housed in shelters for more than a week is a major concern, heightening the risk of dehydration and waterborne illnesses due to the reliance on unsafe water sources.
- More than 60 ambulances were attacked, 55 are damaged and out of service, only seven of the 18 Palestine Red Crescent Society ambulances in the north were still operational, but they were at risk of completely ceasing operations due to running out of fuel.
- 26/35 hospitals in Gaza and 52/72 primary health care clinics (more than two-thirds) have shut down due to damage from the bombardment or lack of fuel.

Destroyed Buildings and Displacement

- The final count of destruction is not available as the bombardment is continuing and disruption of all communication channels.
- Latest updates indicates that more than 59% (almost 280,000) of housing units are destroyed, destroyed units: more than 56 thousand, partially destroyed housing units: 224 thousand.
- On 18 November, the Israeli Occupation forces continued calling on residents in the north to evacuate and move south through a "corridor" along the main traffic artery, Salah Ad Deen Road, between 7:00 and 16:00. OCHA's monitoring team estimates that about 10,000 people moved during the day, most of whom arrived at Wadi Gaza by donkey carts and buses, and some on foot.
- The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) estimates that, as of 11 November, there were about 807,000 Palestinians living in areas north of Wadi Gaza (hereafter: the north), constituting about two-thirds of the pre-war population there. The other third of the population, about 400,000 according to PCBS's estimates, were presumably displaced to the south.
- Israeli occupation forces have reportedly been arresting some IDPs fleeing through the "corridor." There are anecdotal and eyewitness reports of some IDPs being beaten and stripped of their clothing.
- The cumulative number of forcibly displaced people since the start of the war in Gaza is estimated at over 1.6 million almost 70 % of the population in Gaza Strip. 15% of forcibly displaced suffer from various disabilities, and most shelter centres are not adequately equipped to meet their needs.
- Around **183,000** forcibly displaced are sheltering in **154** UNRWA facilities in the north. Since 7 October, at least 71 internally

displaced persons (IDPs) were killed, and 571 injured, while sheltering in UNRWA facilities that were hit across the Gaza Strip.

- On 16 November, UNRWA reported that infectious diseases in shelters over the past two weeks have increased. Sanitation and hygiene conditions in the makeshift shelters are inhuman and pose an imminent health catastrophe, with an average of one shower unit for every 700 people and a solitary toilet for every 150 people.

West Bank including east Jerusalem:

- Escalation in Israeli Occupation forces and settler attacks in the West Bank since October 7th have been documented. Israeli occupation forces have killed 216 Palestinians, Additionally, 2,850 were injured.
- First response -emergency capabilities have been overwhelmed by the increase in injuries due to Israeli occupation forces aggression, with high demand for emergency medical supplies in hospitals.
- The closure of Israeli occupation checkpoints, lack of safety, movement restrictions and attacks on health facilities and personnel make the movement of ambulances difficult, restrict the movement of healthcare workers, and patients' access to primary care and hospitals between West Bank towns and Jerusalem.
- Parts of Area C are still inaccessible to partners running mobile clinics, leaving residents without access to basic healthcare services.
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Urgent Needs:

- An immediate ceasefire and cessation of the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, West Bank and their health institutions.
- We appeal to United Nations, international and human rights institutions to implement **immediately** international humanitarian laws that prohibit attacks on hospitals, health centres, ambulances, health teams and paramedics immediately.
- Urgently allowing the entry of humanitarian and health supplies into the Gaza strip, especially medicine, medical supplies, food, milk and fuel for electrical generators in hospitals.
- Open safe corridor for the entrance of volunteer medical teams.
- Open safe corridor for the wounded to be evacuated for treatment in hospitals in the Arab Republic of Egypt and elsewhere.
- Immediate Stopping of the displacement of citizens.
- Immediate support is needed to establish effective search and rescue operations.